

# New Horizons Learning Center



Mr. Craig Bush, Principal  
Mrs. Elizabeth Swedlund, Asst. Principal

December 2013

3200 Minnesota Ave.  
Panama City, FL 32405  
PHONE: 850-767-1110

TOGETHER,  
WE WILL SUCCEED



Dear Parents and Guardians,

Included in this newsletter is a letter of introduction from our new Administrative Assistant, Mr. Jonathan McQuagge. We want to make you aware of the change since you will be referred to someone new when you have questions about discipline and other such issues.

Wow! We are right on top of Christmas. It is a hard thing to believe that we are this far into the year already. We have three weeks between the Thanksgiving and Christmas Holidays and then a couple more weeks after that to the end of the semester. This year is flying by.



I hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving and will have an even more special Christmas.

I love this time of year more than any other. It is one time of the year when I am able to get my entire family together a couple of times. I enjoyed Thanksgiving with my only sibling, my sister Debby, and all our extended families. We usually are able to get to do the same thing at least once around Christmas time. There is nothing in the world more important than family.

When my grown daughters were kids, they would occasionally be upset because of what some other kid had said about them. They'd sometimes be reduced to tears over something that my wife and I thought was pretty unimportant, but kids are kids and they respond heavily to what other kids think. I used to tell them that one day long after they even knew where those other kids were, and maybe not even remember their names, that their mother and I would still be there for them.

It is important that your children understand that. They need to know that no matter what their peers think, from one moment to the next, their family will always be there. They need to know that, so that they can carry on the same thing with their children one day.

Why do I harp on the family thing so much? Well, simply put, we can't do the job we have chosen and serve your kids without you. The family is the basis for all success in school, and pretty much any other kind of success for that matter. So, during this Holiday Season, I wish you all some great family moments.

Craig Bush  
Principal

## New Administrative Assistant

Hello New Horizons staff, families and students.

I would like to take a moment to introduce myself. My name is Jonathan McQuagge, and I am the new Administrative Assistant here at NHLC. I am excited to be joining this great school and staff. This job is truly a blessing for me. New Horizons is a school I have always wanted to join.

I come to you from Mowat Middle School, where I served as an ESE teacher and administrator for seven years. My experiences there will allow me to be a great asset to the NHLC team. I look forward to meeting and talking to each one of you. Please don't hesitate to call or stop in to see me to help ensure your child is getting the best education that we can offer. I will always have an open door and ear for you when needed.

Go Tigers,  
Jonathan McQuagge



### Mentor Program - Power of Service Award



Gulf Power Company honored the New Horizons Learning Center Mentor Program with a 'Power of Service' award in November 2013.

The award recognizes a group that continues Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s legacy of helping others.

The NHLC Mentor Program was honored for its service and awarded \$2,500 to help continue their community outreach.

"The Power of Service award is a way to honor groups who go above and beyond to improve the lives of others and help strengthen our communities," said Stan Connally, Gulf Power President & CEO. "Organizations like these need and deserve the community's support to help them continue to improve the future of people in our community."

New Horizons Learning Center - Bay County

ESE (Exceptional Student Education) Center, provides a quality educational program for special needs and at-risk students that will ensure continued success in a changing world. It targets at-risk youth and offers small group instruction with individual graduation and post-graduation planning.

### Box Top/Label for Education

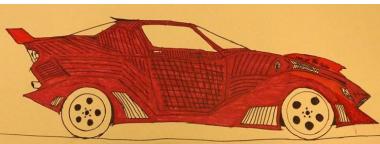
There will be a prize drawing on Thursday, Dec. 19th for the student who has brought in the most Box Tops/Labels for Education.

The Box Tops/Labels for Education must be turned in no later than Dec. 18th to be counted for this drawing.

Please see Ms. Johnson for more details.

### Student Art of the Month

Each month TigerNews features a piece of student



art selected by Art Teacher Ms. Kirksey.

This month we spotlight a piece of

Neo-Pop Realism by Auston J.

### Important Dates

#### December 2013

Dec. 10: SAC Meeting - 2:30 pm Media Center Conf. Rm.  
Dec. 11: ROAR Awards

Dec. 20: Christmas Break - Early Release for Students

#### January 2014

Jan. 6: Return from Christmas Holidays

Jan. 20: Martin Luther King Birthday - Holiday for All

Jan. 21: Records Workday - School Out For Students

#### February 2014

Feb. 17: Presidents Day- School Out For All

### Title I

Happy Holidays!!

Please enjoy the holidays safely!! Be aware of fire and electrical hazards.

To repeat from last month's news:

♦ Mr. Bush's email address is [bushcl@bay.k12.fl.us](mailto:bushcl@bay.k12.fl.us).

♦ The ePATs, which provides practice tools for taking the online FCAT and EOC (End of Course) exams is Pearson Access Florida:  
<http://www.pearsonaccess.com/cs/Satellite?c=Page&childpagename=Florida2FflPALPLayout&cid=1205461226846&pagename=fIPALPWrapper>

♦ Also: Don't forget the Bay District School app for your iphone or smart phone!

### Mentor Program

NHLC students have gotten into the Christmas spirit by decorating the Mentor Room Christmas Tree and packing gift bags for residents at the Sims State Veterans Nursing Home.

The gift bags will be delivered to the veterans on Dec. 13 followed by a field trip, tour and lunch at Tyndall AFB.

**Merry Christmas  
and Happy New Year !**

